

March 2, 2021

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon Jr., Chairman  
Rhode Island House Committee on Corporations  
Room 203  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: National Grid's Comments on Bill H 5327**

Dear Chairman Solomon:

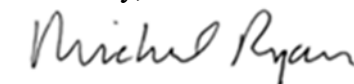
On behalf of National Grid,<sup>1</sup> I write to offer comments regarding H-5327. The legislation is well intended and is representative of our State's commitment to a renewable energy future. However, we do have concerns about the impact of this expansion, under the current construct of this law, has on all other electric customers.

The current program, which has maxed out at 30 mw, has seen costs for all customers increase, not because the concept of community net metering is bad, rather because the credits paid to developers is presently an expensive one. Indeed, in a recent annual rate filing, the recovery of costs related to net metering jumped from \$18 million to \$30 million this year. In addition, a recent review of the community net metering pilot by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources clearly showed the state can increase the amount of renewables in a less expensive way through an expansion/modification of the renewable energy growth (REG) program versus expanding community net metering.

We are more than willing to sit with the sponsors to examine ways to increase the expansion renewables and simultaneously take into account the impact on the cost to all of our customers. Unless there are substantial changes to the legislation, National Grid must object to passage of H-5327.

We stand ready to discuss this further at the pleasure of the Chair and The Committee members. Thank you for your attention and understanding.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Ryan

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or the "Company").